

## Equalities Comprehensive Impact Assessment v3 - Head of service review

Reference: ECIA584889199

Submitted: 09 February 2024 09:11 AM

### Executive summary

**Title of policy / decision:** Acceptance of Funding for Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) expenditure incurred on Essex Maintained Schools

**Policy / decision type:** Key Decision

**Overview of policy / decision:** As the responsible body for Essex maintained schools, ECC is supporting those schools affected by RAAC to ensure all pupil are in Education at school. Currently, funding for this mitigation is from the authority's Health and Safety Reserve to allow for temporary accommodation to be sourced for school sites.

The DfE has confirmed that it will provide funding for essential immediate works and support the provision of temporary buildings for schools and colleges that are affected and work closely with responsible bodies to manage RAAC in the long term.

**What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve?:** To agree to accept funding of £2.3m in 2023/24 and enter into a grant agreement with the DfE for expenditure incurred for the temporary accommodation for those Essex maintained schools which have been affected by RAAC.

To note that there will be further expenditure incurred by schools affected by RAAC which will also be claimed back through the DfE grant agreement as it is incurred on a timely basis.

**Executive Director responsible for policy / decision:** Helen Lincoln (Children, Families & Education)

**Cabinet Member responsible for policy / decision:** Cllr Chris Whitbread (Chancellor of Essex)

**Is this a new policy / decision or a change to an existing one?:** New policy / decision

**How will the impact of the policy / decision be monitored and evaluated?:** Once DfE have reimbursed the authority for expenditure incurred for the temporary accommodation for those Essex maintained schools which have been affected by RAAC.

**Will this policy / decision impact on:**

**Service users:** No

**Employees:** No

**Wider community or groups of people:** No

**What strategic priorities will this policy / decision support?:** A good place for Children and Families to Grow

**Which strategic priorities does this support? - Families:** Education outcomes

**What geographical areas of Essex will the policy / decision affect?:** Basildon, Braintree, Chelmsford,

## Digital accessibility

Is the new or revised policy linked to a digital service (website, system or application)?: No

## Equalities - Groups with protected characteristics

### Age

Nature of impact: None

### Disability - learning disability

Nature of impact: None

### Disability - mental health issues

Nature of impact: None

### Disability - physical impairment

Nature of impact: None

### Disability - sensory impairment

Nature of impact: None

### Sex

Nature of impact: None

### Gender reassignment

Nature of impact: None

### Marriage / civil partnership

Nature of impact: None

### Pregnancy / maternity

Nature of impact: None

### Race

Nature of impact: None

### Religion / belief

Nature of impact: None

### Sexual orientation

Nature of impact: None

Rationale for assessment, including data used to assess the impact: This decision is to agree to accept

funding of £2.3m in 2023/24 and enter into a grant agreement with the DfE for expenditure incurred for the temporary accommodation for those Essex maintained schools which have been affected by RAAC

**What actions have already been taken to mitigate any negative impacts?:**

## **Levelling up - Priority areas & cohorts**

**Children and adults with SEND, learning disabilities or mental health conditions (taking an all-age approach)**

**Nature of impact:** None

**Children on Free School Meals**

**Nature of impact:** None

**Working families**

**Nature of impact:** None

**Young adults (16-25 who have not been in education, training or employment for around 6-12 months)**

**Nature of impact:** None

**Residents of Harlow**

**Nature of impact:** None

**Residents of Jaywick and Clacton**

**Nature of impact:** None

**Residents of Harwich**

**Nature of impact:** None

**Residents of Basildon (Town) housing estates**

**Nature of impact:** None

**Residents of Canvey Island**

**Nature of impact:** None

**Residents of Colchester (Town) - Housing Estates**

**Nature of impact:** None

**Residents of Rural North of the Braintree District**

**Nature of impact:** None

**Rationale for assessment, including data used to assess the impact:** This decision is to agree to accept funding of £2.3m in 2023/24 and enter into a grant agreement with the DfE for expenditure incurred for the temporary accommodation for those Essex maintained schools which have been affected by RAAC

What actions have already been taken to mitigate any negative impacts?:

## **Equalities - Inclusion health groups and other priority groups**

### **Refugees / asylum seekers**

Nature of impact: None

### **Homeless / rough sleepers**

Nature of impact: None

### **People who experience drug and alcohol dependence**

Nature of impact: None

### **Offenders / ex-offenders**

Nature of impact: None

### **Victims of modern slavery**

Nature of impact: None

### **Carers**

Nature of impact: None

### **Looked after children / care leavers**

Nature of impact: None

### **The armed forces community (serving personnel and their families, veterans, reservists and cadets)**

Nature of impact: None

### **People who are unemployed / economically inactive**

Nature of impact: None

### **People on low income**

Nature of impact: None

### **Sex workers**

Nature of impact: None

### **Ethnic minorities**

Nature of impact: None

### **Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller communities**

Nature of impact: None

## **People with multiple complex needs or multi-morbidities**

**Nature of impact:** None

**Rationale for assessment, including data used to assess the impact:** This decision is to agree to accept funding of £2.3m in 2023/24 and enter into a grant agreement with the DfE for expenditure incurred for the temporary accommodation for those Essex maintained schools which have been affected by RAAC

**What actions have already been taken to mitigate any negative impacts?:**

## **Equalities - Geographical Groups**

### **People living in areas of high deprivation**

**Nature of impact:** None

### **People living in rural or isolated areas**

**Nature of impact:** None

### **People living in coastal areas**

**Nature of impact:** None

### **People living in urban areas**

**Nature of impact:** None

**Rationale for assessment, including data used to assess the impact:** This decision is to agree to accept funding of £2.3m in 2023/24 and enter into a grant agreement with the DfE for expenditure incurred for the temporary accommodation for those Essex maintained schools which have been affected by RAAC

**What actions have already been taken to mitigate any negative impacts?:**

## **Families**

### **Family formation (e.g. to become or live as a couple, the ability to live with or apart from children)**

**Nature of impact:** None

### **Families going through key transitions e.g. becoming parents, getting married, fostering or adopting, bereavement, redundancy, new caring responsibilities, onset of a long-term health condition**

**Nature of impact:** None

### **Family members' ability to play a full role in family life, including with respect to parenting and other caring responsibilities**

**Nature of impact:** None

### **Families before, during and after couple separation**

**Nature of impact:** None

## **Families most at risk of deterioration of relationship quality and breakdown**

**Nature of impact:** None

**Rationale for assessment, including data used to assess the impact:** This decision is to agree to accept funding of £2.3m in 2023/24 and enter into a grant agreement with the DfE for expenditure incurred for the temporary accommodation for those Essex maintained schools which have been affected by RAAC

**What actions have already been taken to mitigate any negative impacts?:**

## **Crime & Disorder**

### **Crime and disorder**

**Nature of impact:** None

### **The misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances**

**Nature of impact:** None

### **Re-offending**

**Nature of impact:** None

### **Serious violence**

**Nature of impact:** None

**Rationale for assessment, including data used to assess the impact:**

This decision is to agree to accept funding of £2.3m in 2023/24 and enter into a grant agreement with the DfE for expenditure incurred for the temporary accommodation for those Essex maintained schools which have been affected by RAAC

**(If negative impact assessed) What actions will be undertaken to mitigate negative impacts, including timescales:**

**What actions have already been taken to mitigate any negative impacts?:**

This decision is to agree to accept funding of £2.3m in 2023/24 and enter into a grant agreement with the DfE for expenditure incurred for the temporary accommodation for those Essex maintained schools which have been affected by RAAC

**How could you strengthen any positive impact(s)?:**

## **Climate**

**Does your decision / policy involve development or re-development of buildings or infrastructure?:** No

**Does your decision / policy take place in, or make use of, existing buildings or infrastructure?:** No

**Does your decision / policy involve elements connected to transport, travel or vehicles? This includes travel needs / requirements of both service users and staff (including staff you're planning to recruit):** No

**Are you undertaking a procurement exercise?:** No

**Does your decision / policy involve the purchase of goods or materials?:** No

**Will any waste be generated by this decision? This includes waste from construction, waste generated by service users / staff, and waste generated by replacing existing products / materials with new:** No

# Action plan to address and monitor adverse impacts

**Does your ECIA indicate that the policy or decision would have a medium or high adverse impact on one or more of the groups / areas identified?:** No

## Details of person completing the form

**I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance:** I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance

**Date ECIA completed:** 07/02/2024

**Name of person completing the ECIA:** Andrew Page

**Email address of person completing the ECIA:** andrew.page@essex.gov.uk

**Your function:** Corporate Services

**Your service area:** Finance

**Your team:** Children and Families

**Are you submitting this ECIA on behalf of another function, service area or team?:** Yes

**Function:** Children, Families and Education

**Service area:**

**Team:**

**Email address of Head of Service:** joseph.chell@essex.gov.uk